

# In the United States Court of Federal Claims

## OFFICE OF SPECIAL MASTERS

Filed: March 31, 2014

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IRENE DENNIS,

\*

UNPUBLISHED

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No. 11-029v

\*

Petitioner,

\*

Special Master Dorsey

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v.

\*

Attorneys' Fees and Costs;

SECRETARY OF HEALTH  
AND HUMAN SERVICES,

\*

Reasonable Amount Requested to which

\*

Respondent Does not Object.

\*

Respondent.

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\* \* \* \* \*

Luretha M. Stribling, Clark, NJ, for petitioner.

Jennifer L. Reynaud, U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, D.C., for respondent.

### **ATTORNEY'S FEES AND COSTS DECISION**<sup>1</sup>

On January 11, 2011, Irene Dennis (petitioner), filed a petition pursuant to the National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program.<sup>2</sup> 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34 (2006). Petitioner alleged that she suffered a cerebrovascular accident (or stroke) and encephalopathy that was caused-in-fact by her receipt of an influenza ("flu") vaccine which she received on or about October 14, 2008, and September 15, 2010. On October 25, 2013, a decision awarding compensation to petitioner based on the parties' stipulation was entered.

<sup>1</sup> Because this decision contains a reasoned explanation for the undersigned's action in this case, the undersigned intends to post this decision on the website of the United States Court of Federal Claims, in accordance with the E-Government Act of 2002, Pub. L. No. 107-347, 116 Stat. 2899, 2913 (Dec. 17, 2002). As provided by Vaccine Rule 18(b), each party has 14 days within which to request redaction "of any information furnished by that party: (1) that is a trade secret or commercial or financial in substance and is privileged or confidential; or (2) that includes medical files or similar files, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy." Vaccine Rule 18(b). Otherwise, the entire decision will be available to the public. Id.

<sup>2</sup> The National Vaccine Injury Compensation Program is set forth in Part 2 of the National Childhood Vaccine Injury Act of 1986, Pub. L. No. 99-660, 100 Stat. 3755, codified as amended, 42 U.S.C. §§ 300aa-1 to -34 (2006) (Vaccine Act or the Act). All citations in this decision to individual sections of the Vaccine Act are to 42 U.S.C.A. § 300aa.

On March 28, 2014, petitioner filed a Stipulation of Fact Concerning Final Attorneys' Fees and Costs. According to the stipulation, the parties stipulate to an award to petitioner of attorneys' fees and costs in the amount of \$17,018.13. In accordance with General Order #9, petitioner's counsel represents that petitioner advanced \$4,981.87, in out-of-pocket expenses in pursuing her petition.

The Vaccine Act permits an award of reasonable attorneys' fees and costs. 42 U.S.C. § 300 aa-15(e). Based on the reasonableness of the parties' stipulation, the undersigned **GRANTS** the request for approval and payment of attorneys' fees and costs.

Accordingly, an award should be made as follows:

in the form of a check jointly payable to petitioner and Ms. Luretha M. Stribling, in the amount of **\$17,018.13**; and

in the form of a check payable to petitioner only in the amount of **\$4,981.17**.

In the absence of a motion for review filed pursuant to RCFC Appendix B, the clerk of the court **SHALL ENTER JUDGMENT** in accordance with the terms of the parties' stipulation.<sup>3</sup>

**IT IS SO ORDERED.**

s/Nora Beth Dorsey  
Nora Beth Dorsey  
Special Master

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<sup>3</sup> Pursuant to Vaccine Rule 11(a), entry of judgment is expedited by the parties' joint filing of notice renouncing the right to seek review.